

Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 DRC-01 SIL-01 LAB-06 HEW-08 /145 W

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R 071235Z NOV 73

FM AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3046

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

UNCLAS JOHANNESBURG 1020

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, SF

SUBJ: PRIME MINISTER ADDRESSES ALL-WHITE COORDINATING COUNCIL
OF SOUTH AFRICAN TRADE UNIONS (CONFED AFFILIATE) ON OCCASION OF
ITS TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

REF: CAPE TOWN 643; JOHANNESBURG 918 & 937

1. FOLLOWING UP ON OCTOBER 4 CAPE TOWN SPEECH TO EMPLOYERS IN
MOTOR INDUSTRY PRIME MINISTER VORSTER TOLD LEADERS OF COORDINATING
COUNCIL AT ORGANIZATION'S TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY BANQUET IN
PRETORIA NOVEMBER 5 THAT SOUTH AFRICA, IF IT HOPES TO ENSURE
CONTINUING ECONOMIC GROWTH, WILL HENCEFORTH HAVE TO MAKE "MORE
PRODUCTIVE USE" OF ALL OF ITS AVAILABLE WORKERS "WHITE AS WELL AS
NON-WHITE." WHILE GOING OUT OF HIS WAY TO ASSURE HIS LISTENERS
THAT SAG HAD NO INTENTION OF DOING OR PROPOSING ANYTHING THAT
MIGHT INFRINGE ON LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OR INTERESTS OF WHITE
WORKERS IN WHITE SOUTH AFRICA (SUCH AS EXTENDING TRADE UNION RIGHTS
TO BLACKS) HE NEVERTHELESS CALLED UPON TRADE UNIONISTS AS PATRI-
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OTIC SOUTH AFRICANS AND IN THEIR OWN LONG-RUN SELF-INTEREST TO

ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR HELPING TO PROVIDE URBAN BLACK WORKERS WITH SKILLS THEY MUST ACQUIRE IF THEY ARE TO FREE LIMITED NUMBER OF WHITES FROM ROUTINE OR REPETITIVE TASKS NOW RESERVED FOR WHITES AND THUS MAKE LATTER AVAILABLE FOR MORE RESPONSIBLE WORK. VORSTER ALSO SPOKE OF NEED TO REDUCE URBAN BLACK UNEMPLOYMENT IN INTERESTS OF ENSURING CONTINUING DECENT RATE OF ECONOMIC GROWTH.

2. COORDINATING COUNCIL COMPOSED OF THIRTEEN UNIONS AFFILIATED TO ALL-SHITE SOUTH AFRICAN CONFEDERATION OF LABOUR (CONFED). ONE OF THIRTEEN, SOUTH AFRICAN IRON, STEEL AND ALLIED INDUSTRIES UNION WHOSE MEMBERS MOSTLY EMPLOYED IN STATE OR SEMI-STATE ENTERPRISES, ACCOUNTS FOR ABOUT TWO-THIRDS OF 45,000 TOTAL.

3. COMMENT: PRIME MINISTER CHOSE VERY APPROPRIATE FORUM IN WHICH TO PRESENT FOLLOW-UP TO CAPE TOWN SPEECH SINCE, AS HE IS UNDOUBTEDLY WELL AWARE, IT IS NOT GOING TO BE POSSIBLE TO MAKE SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN SOUTH AFRICA'S "TRADITIONAL" LABOR PATTERNS IN FORESEEABLE FUTURE UNLESS ALL-WHITE TRADE UNIONS AGREE TO COOPERATE.

4. CONGEN WILL POUCH ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF VORSTER'S SPEECH WITH ADDITIONAL COMMENT IF WARRANTED.
DEGRACE

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NNN

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